

Daily Digest

Senate

Chamber Action

Routine Proceedings, pages S5617–S5680

Measures Introduced: Twenty-one bills and four resolutions were introduced, as follows: S. 4584–4604, and S. Res. 697–700. **Pages S5651–52**

Measures Passed:

America's Conservation Enhancement Act: Senate passed S. 3051, to improve protections for wildlife, after withdrawing the committee amendment in the nature of a substitute, and agreeing to the following amendment proposed thereto: **Pages S5666–76**

Portman (for Barrasso/Carper) Amendment No. 2656, in the nature of a substitute. **Page S5676**

National Spinal Cord Injury Awareness Month: Senate agreed to S. Res. 698, designating September 2020 as “National Spinal Cord Injury Awareness Month”. **Page S5676**

Patriot Week: Senate agreed to S. Res. 699, expressing support for the designation of the week of September 11 through September 17 as “Patriot Week”. **Page S5676**

National Estuaries Week: Senate agreed to S. Res. 700, designating the week of September 19 through September 26, 2020, as “National Estuaries Week”. **Page S5676**

Johnston Nomination—Agreement: Senate resumed consideration of the nomination of Iain D. Johnston, to be United States District Judge for the Northern District of Illinois. **Pages S5637–46**

During consideration of this nomination today, Senate also took the following action:

By 81 yeas to 15 nays (Vote No. EX. 181), Senate agreed to the motion to close further debate on the nomination. **Pages S5637–38**

A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that notwithstanding the provisions of Rule XXII, at 11:30 a.m., on Thursday, September 17, 2020, Senate vote on the motion to invoke cloture on the nomination of Franklin Ulyses Valderrama, to be United States District Judge for the Northern District of Illinois, and, if cloture is invoked on the nomination, the post-cloture time be expired, and

Senate then vote on confirmation of the nomination; provided further that following disposition of the Valderrama nomination, Senate continue consideration of the nomination of Iain D. Johnston, that the post-cloture time on the nomination expire at 1:30 p.m., on Thursday, September 17, 2020, and Senate then vote on confirmation of the nomination.

Page S5646

Valderrama Nomination—Agreement: A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that Senate resume consideration of the nomination of Franklin Ulyses Valderrama, to be United States District Judge for the Northern District of Illinois, at approximately 9:45 a.m., on Thursday, September 17, 2020. **Page S5676**

Nominations Confirmed: Senate confirmed the following nominations:

By 86 yeas to 10 nays (Vote No. EX. 176), Todd Wallace Robinson, of California, to be United States District Judge for the Southern District of California. **Pages S5618–23, S5680**

By 55 yeas to 41 nays (Vote No. EX. 179), David W. Dugan, of Illinois, to be United States District Judge for the Southern District of Illinois.

Pages S5637, S5680

During consideration of this nomination today, Senate also took the following action:

By 56 yeas to 40 nays (Vote No. EX. 177), Senate agreed to the motion to close further debate on the nomination. **Page S5623**

By 55 yeas to 41 nays (Vote No. EX. 180), Stephen P. McGlynn, of Illinois, to be United States District Judge for the Southern District of Illinois.

Pages S5624–37, S5680

During consideration of this nomination today, Senate also took the following action:

By 55 yeas to 42 nays (Vote No. EX. 178), Senate agreed to the motion to close further debate on the nomination. **Pages S5623–24**

Nominations Received: Senate received the following nominations:

Allen Dickerson, of the District of Columbia, to be a Member of the Federal Election Commission for a term expiring April 30, 2025.

Michael Rigas, of Massachusetts, to be Deputy Director for Management, Office of Management and Budget.

Nathan A. Simington, of Virginia, to be a Member of the Federal Communications Commission for a term of five years from July 1, 2019.

1 Army nomination in the rank of general.

A routine list in the Army. **Pages S5679–80**

Messages from the House: **Page S5648**

Measures Referred: **Page S5648**

Measures Placed on the Calendar: **Page S5648**

Executive Communications: **Pages S5648–50**

Petitions and Memorials: **Pages S5650–51**

Executive Reports of Committees: **Page S5651**

Additional Cosponsors: **Pages S5652–54**

Additional Statements: **Pages S5647–48**

Amendments Submitted: **Pages S5655–65**

Authorities for Committees to Meet: **Pages S5665–66**

Record Votes: Six record votes were taken today. (Total—181) **Pages S5623, S5623–24, S5637, S5637–38**

Adjournment: Senate convened at 10 a.m. and adjourned at 7:56 p.m., until 9:45 a.m. on Thursday, September 17, 2020. (For Senate's program, see the remarks of the Acting Majority Leader in today's Record on page S5676.)

Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

HHS' CORONAVIRUS RESPONSE

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, and Related Agencies concluded a hearing to examine the Department of Health and Human Services' Coronavirus response, focusing on a review of efforts to date and next steps, after receiving testimony from Brett Giroir, Assistant Secretary for Health, Bob Kadlec, Assistant Secretary for Preparedness and Response, and Robert Redfield, Director, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, all of the Department of Health and Human Services.

FEDERAL HOUSING ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS

Committee on the Budget: Committee concluded a hearing to examine Federal housing assistance programs, after receiving testimony from Daniel Garcia-Diaz, Managing Director, Financial Markets and Community Investment Team, Government Accountability Office; Ed Olsen, University of Virginia, Charlottesville;

and Diane Yentel, National Low Income Housing Coalition, Washington, D.C.

BUSINESS MEETING

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation: Committee ordered favorably reported the following business items:

S. 804, to amend the Marine Mammal Protection Act of 1972 to protect the cultural practices and livelihoods of producers of Alaska Native handicrafts and fossilized ivory products;

S. 1626, to require the National Telecommunications and Information Administration to estimate the value of electromagnetic spectrum assigned or otherwise allocated to Federal entities;

S. 3831, to authorize the position of Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Travel and Tourism, to statutorily establish the United States Travel and Tourism Advisory Board, with an amendment;

S. 4159, to amend the Electronic Signatures in Global and National Commerce Act to accommodate emerging technologies, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute;

S. 4286, to authorize appropriations for offsetting the costs related to reductions in research productivity resulting from the coronavirus pandemic, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute;

S. 4462, to establish a national integrated flood information system within the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute;

S. 4568, to facilitate the development and distribution of forensic science standards by establishing in the National Institute of Standards and Technology the Organization of Scientific Area Committees for Forensic Science, with an amendment; and

The nominations of Eric J. Soskin, of Virginia, to be Inspector General, Department of Transportation, Robert E. Primus, of New Jersey, to be a Member of the Surface Transportation Board, and Theodore Rokita, of Indiana, Sarah E. Feinberg, of West Virginia, and Chris Koos, of Illinois, each to be a Director of the Amtrak Board of Directors.

NOMINATIONS

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the nominations of Allison Clements, of Ohio, and Mark C. Christie, of Virginia, both to be a Member of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, after the nominees testified and answered questions in their own behalf.

PUBLIC LANDS AND WILDFIRES LEGISLATION

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources: Subcommittee on Public Lands, Forests, and Mining concluded a hearing to examine S. 180, to streamline